

IAC-D-20/3  
24 May 1955

INTELLIGENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Request of US Public Health Service,  
Department of Health, Education, and Welfare  
for Intelligence Support

1. CIA has received a request for intelligence support from the US Public Health Service (USPHS) based on the delegation to the Secretary, Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW) by the Federal Civil Defense Administration (FCDA), with the approval of the President, of responsibilities for biological, chemical, and radiological warfare defense programs (see Enclosure A). The request states that "To properly carry out these responsibilities it is necessary to have access to information bearing on the current and long-range capabilities and intentions of the countries behind the Iron Curtain". The specific fields in which support is requested are as follows:

Atomic Warfare  
Biological Warfare  
Chemical Warfare  
Radiological Warfare  
Psychological Warfare  
Mental Health and Psychological Problems  
Communicable Diseases  
Civil Defense Activities

2. Your attention is invited to IAC actions regarding intelligence support for FCDA contained in IAC-D-20, 1 May 1951; IAC-D-20/1, 4 May 1951; and IAC-D-20/2, 24 May 1951. Enclosure A contains the delegation of certain responsibilities from FCDA to the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare and Enclosure B contains the assignment of certain of these responsibilities to the USPHS by the Secretary. Dr. Theodore W. Babbitt, Planning Staff, FCDA, has indicated that in his opinion there is a need for the intelligence support requested.

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3. In view of the delegation of responsibilities from FCDA to HEW contained in Enclosure A, it is recommended (1) that the IAC authorize the several intelligence agencies to provide the US Public Health Service with intelligence as described in paragraph 1 above in the same manner as is now done for FCDA (see references above) and (2) that selected national intelligence estimates related to the civil defense mission of the USPHS be individually approved for release by the IAC and (3) that these procedures be effective only after CIA has investigated and approved the security arrangements of the USPHS for handling these materials and has so notified the IAC.

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4. Please telephone your concurrence or non-concurrence in these recommendations to the Secretariat, code 143, extension 4140 by the close of business 1 June 1955.

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Secretary

Enclosures (2)

Enclosures A and B are unclassified when removed from covering memorandum.

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